

February 23, 1967

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the United States and is pending committee hearings; and

Whereas the People of the Virgin Islands appreciate in full the principles that maturity and responsibility are prerequisites to the ability of self-government and that once such maturity and responsibility have been acquired the mature and the responsible have earned the right, concomitant to the ability, to govern themselves; and

Whereas the People of the Virgin Islands have demonstrated by every indicia of maturity and responsibility—political, governmental, social, and economic—that they have the capacity to direct their own destiny within the context of the federal system and of the relationship of their beloved Islands to the United States; and

Whereas the People of the Virgin Islands, proud of that relationship and actuated by the obligations of their citizenship, have constructively and rationally urged through their elected representatives, assembled in Constitutional Convention, that they be granted the powers of self-governance, which powers are but incidental to their rights as mature and responsible citizens and as free men; and

Whereas S. 450, referred to above, is solemnly regarded by the People of the Virgin Islands as reasonable and necessary means towards the rightful and fully justified end of the control of the people by the people and for the people, over their executive authorities and officials; and

Whereas the Seventh Legislature of the Virgin Islands, assembled in Regular Session on this 16th Day of February, 1967, is the only representative entity and is thereby the only voice that can effectively and accurately articulate the will of the People of the Virgin Islands; Now, Therefore, be it

Resolved by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands, That said Legislature, acting in unanimity, on behalf of its electorate, expresses the resolute desire of the People of the Virgin Islands that the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States, in Congress assembled, act promptly and favorably on S. 450, and that the Legislature of the Virgin Islands respectfully urges such action by the Senate and the House of Representatives; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, to the Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior, to the Presiding Officer of the Senate of the United States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States, to the Chairman of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the Senate of the United States, to each member of said Committee, to the Chairman of the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the House of Representatives of the United States, and to each member of said Committee.

Thus passed by the Legislature of the Virgin Islands on February 16, 1967.

Witness our Hands and the Seal of the Legislature of the Virgin Islands this 16th Day of February, A.D., 1967.

EARLE B. OTTLEY,
President.
A. DAVID PURTIS,
Legislative Secretary.

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF A COMMITTEE

As in executive session,
The following favorable report of a nomination was submitted:

Mr. RANDOLPH, from the Committee on Public Works:
Francis O. Turner, of Virginia, to be Director of Public Roads.

BILLS INTRODUCED

Bills were introduced, read the first time, and by unanimous consent, the second time, and referred as follows:

By Mr. WILLIAMS of Delaware:

S. 1050. A bill to require the use of competitive bidding to the greatest practicable extent in the procurement of property and services by all executive departments and agencies of the United States through the establishment of specific standards governing the use of negotiated contracts for such procurement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Government Operations.

By Mr. LAUSCHE:

S. 1051. A bill for the relief of Aic, Vaughn A. White, U.S. Air Force; and

S. 1052. A bill for the relief of Nicholas S. Cvetan, U.S. Air Force (retired); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LONG of Missouri:

S. 1053. A bill for the relief of Dr. Christos A. Antoniou;

S. 1054. A bill for the relief of Gerhard Hofacker; and

S. 1055. A bill for the relief of Georgios Markatis; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. RANDOLPH (by request):

S. 1056. A bill to amend the Social Security Act to establish a national system of minimum retirement payments for all aged, blind, and disabled individuals; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRUENING (for himself, Mr. BARTLETT, Mr. CHURCH, Mr. CLARK, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MONTOYA, Mr. MORSE, Mr. NELSON, and Mr. YARBOROUGH):

S. 1057. A bill to provide additional readjustment assistance to veterans who served in the Armed Forces during the Vietnam era, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

(See the remarks of Mr. GRUENING when he introduced the above bill, which appears under a separate heading.)

By Mr. GRUENING (for himself and Mr. BARTLETT):

S. 1058. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to sell lands embraced in certain terminated entries, and for other purposes; and

S. 1059. A bill to amend the act relating to the leasing of lands in Alaska for grazing in order to make certain improvements in such act; to the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs.

(See the remarks of Mr. GRUENING when he introduced the above bills, which appear under separate headings.)

By Mr. MAGNUSON (by request):

S. 1060. A bill to authorize appropriations for procurement of vessels and aircraft and construction of shore and offshore establishments for the Coast Guard; to the Committee on Commerce.

(See the remarks of Mr. MAGNUSON when he introduced the above bill, which appear under a separate heading.)

By Mr. LONG of Missouri:

S. 1061. A bill to prohibit the use of mail covers; to the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service.

(See the remarks of Mr. LONG of Missouri when he introduced the above bill, which appear under a separate heading.)

By Mr. BURDICK:

S. 1062. A bill to amend the Packers and Stockyards Act of 1921, as amended, to prohibit slaughter of livestock under certain conditions which reduce the bargaining power of livestock producers generally and interfere with a free market, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.

By Mr. MORSE (for himself, Mr. HATFIELD, and Mr. CHURCH):

S. 1063. A bill to amend section 8c(2) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, as reenacted and amended by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, as amended, so as to permit marketing orders issued under such section to be applicable to canned and frozen onions; to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.

By Mr. PELL:

S. 1064. A bill to amend the Foreign Service Act of 1946 to provide for compensation for certain alien employees of the Foreign Service who are imprisoned by a foreign government as a result of their employment by the United States; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

(See the remarks of Mr. PELL when he introduced the above bill, which appear under a separate heading.)

By Mr. BREWSTER:

S. 1065. A bill to amend the Federal Employees Health Benefits Act of 1959 to provide that the entire cost of health benefits under such act shall be paid by the Government; to the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service.

By Mr. BREWSTER (by request):

S. 1066. A bill to amend titles 10 and 37, United States Code, to provide career incentives for certain professionally trained officers of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. TALMADGE:

S. 1067. A bill for the relief of Richard L. Bass; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ALLOTT (for himself, Mr. DOMINICK, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. HANSEN, Mr. MCGEE, and Mr. MOSS):

S. 1068. A bill to amend section 413 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954; to the Committee on Finance.

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

DECLARATION OF SENSE OF CONGRESS RELATING TO CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF UNIVERSAL MILITARY TRAINING AND SERVICE ACT

Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts (for himself and Mr. CLARK) submitted a concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 12) to declare the sense of the Congress relative to certain aspects of the administration of the Universal Military Training and Service Act, as amended, which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

(See the above concurrent resolution printed in full when submitted by Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts, which appears under a separate heading.)

RESOLUTION

CREATION OF SELECT COMMITTEE TO INQUIRE INTO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY IN QUASI-FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC ACTIVITIES

Mr. MCCARTHY (for himself and Mr. YOUNG of Ohio) submitted a resolution (S. Res. 85) to create a Select Committee to inquire into the activities of the Central Intelligence Agency in quasi-foreign and domestic activities, which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

(See the above resolution printed in full when submitted by Mr. MCCARTHY,

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which appears under a separate heading.)

VETERANS SERVING IN VIETNAM BEFORE AUGUST 5, 1964, SHOULD BE ELIGIBLE FOR VETERANS READJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE

Mr. GRUENING. Mr. President, on January 31, 1967, the Committee on Finance reported out S. 16, the Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act. The bill provides a needed equalization in the benefits provided to veterans who served in the Armed Forces during the Vietnam era with benefits previously provided to veterans of World War I, World War II, and the Korean conflict. S. 16 was passed by the Senate on February 7, 1967, and is now awaiting action in the House.

However, I believe that S. 16 is unnecessarily restrictive, inadequate, and unfair in that it defines the "Vietnam era" as having begun August 5, 1964, the day of the Gulf of Tonkin incident.

Considerable doubt has been thrown on the facts surrounding the so-called Gulf of Tonkin incident. However, whatever the actual facts may be concerning that incident, it is true that U.S. involvement in hostilities in Vietnam began much earlier than August 5, 1964. So-called advisers from the Armed Forces of the United States had been in South Vietnam since 1954. For the U.S. military adviser riding a helicopter over South Vietnam and facing Vietcong machinegun fire—with possibly getting killed or wounded—the fighting was just as serious and just as dangerous whether the engagement took place on August 4 or August 5, 1964, or on August 5, 1961. The family of the U.S. soldier killed by hostile action in Vietnam on August 4 can be just as needy as the family of a soldier killed the next day.

The artificial distinction which the administration seeks to create between events before and after the Gulf of Tonkin incident bears no relationship whatsoever to the realities of the situation. The facts cannot be changed. History cannot be rewritten.

Between January 1, 1961, and January 1, 1964, 194 armed service personnel were killed in Vietnam; 146 of these were killed as a result of hostile action.

During this period 1,100 servicemen were wounded in Vietnam; 15,000 servicemen have served in Vietnam.

These men who were injured or killed in Vietnam before August 5, 1964, were not there of their own volition. They were ordered there by their own Government. However, misguided may have been the policies of their Government in sending them to Vietnam in such an equivocal role, they and their families should not be forced to bear the burdens of their Government's follies.

The bill I am introducing today is identical to S. 16 in providing veterans with disability compensation at wartime rates, pensions for non-service-connected disabilities and deaths, allowances for burial expenses, benefits for drugs and therapeutic devices, and automobile allowance for seriously disabled veterans. The only change contained in the bill I offer from S. 16 is that these

benefits are extended to all military personnel who served in Vietnam from February 1, 1955, through August 4, 1964. The benefits provided by S. 16 to all members of the Armed Forces, who served at any time subsequent to August 4, 1964, regardless of where they served, are the same as they were in S. 16.

On behalf of myself and my colleagues, Mr. BARTLETT, Mr. CHURCH, Mr. CLARK, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. MONTOYA, Mr. MORSE, Mr. NELSON, and Mr. YARBOROUGH, I send to the desk a bill to accomplish this objective and ask that it be printed in full in the RECORD at the conclusion of my remarks.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MONDALE in the chair). The bill will be received and appropriately referred; and, without objection, the bill will be printed in the RECORD.

The bill (S. 1057) to provide additional readjustment assistance to veterans who served in the Armed Forces during the Vietnam era, and for other purposes, introduced by Mr. GRUENING (for himself and other Senators), was received, read twice by its title, referred to the Committee on Finance, and ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1057

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act shall be known as the "Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act".

SEC. 2. (2) Paragraph (11) of section 101 of title 38, United States Code, is amended to read:

"(11) The term 'period of war' means the Spanish-American War, World War I, World War II, the Korean conflict, the Vietnam era, and the period beginning on the date of any future declaration of war by the Congress and ending on the date prescribed by Presidential proclamation or concurrent resolution of the Congress."

(b) Such section is further amended by adding at the end thereof the following new paragraph:

"(29) The term 'Vietnam era' means (A) the period beginning on February 1, 1955, and ending on August 4, 1964, in the case of any veteran who at any time during such period served in the Vietnam zone (as defined by the President), and (B) the period beginning August 5, 1964, and ending on such date as shall thereafter be determined by Presidential proclamation or concurrent resolution of the Congress."

SEC. 3. (a) Subsection (a) of section 521 of title 38, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"(a) The Administrator shall pay to each veteran of World War I, World War II, the Korean conflict, or the Vietnam era, who meets the service requirements of this section, and who is permanently and totally disabled from non-service-connected disability not the result of the veteran's willful misconduct or vicious habits, pension at the rate prescribed by this section."

(b) Such section is further amended by amending subsection (g) to read as follows:

"(g) A veteran meets the service requirements of this section if he served in the active military, naval, or air service—

"(1) for ninety days or more during either World War I, World War II, the Korean conflict, or the Vietnam era;

"(2) during World War I, World War II, the Korean conflict, or the Vietnam era, and was discharged or released from such service for a service-connected disability;

"(3) for a period of ninety consecutive days or more and such period ended during World War I, or began or ended during World

War II, the Korean conflict, or the Vietnam era; or

"(4) for an aggregate of ninety days or more in two or more separate periods of service during more than one period of war."

(c) The catchline of section 521 of title 38, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"§ 521. Veterans of World War I, World War II, the Korean conflict, or the Vietnam era."

(d) Subsection (a) of section 541 of title 38, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"(a) The Administrator shall pay to the widow of each veteran of World War I, World War II, the Korean conflict, or the Vietnam era who met the service requirements of section 521 of this title, or who at the time of his death was receiving (or entitled to receive) compensation or retirement pay for a service-connected disability, pension at the rate prescribed by this section."

(e) Paragraph (1) of subsection (e) of such section is amended to read as follows:

"(1) before (A) December 14, 1944, in the case of a widow of a World War I veteran; or (B) January 1, 1957, in the case of a widow of a World War II veteran, or (C) February 1, 1965, in the case of a widow of a Korean conflict veteran, or (D) before the expiration of ten years following termination of the Vietnam era in the case of a widow of a Vietnam era veteran; or"

(f) The catchline of section 541 of title 38, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"§ 541. Widows of World War I, World War II, Korean conflict, or Vietnam era veterans."

(g) Subsection (a) of section 542 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking out "or the Korean conflict" and inserting in lieu thereof "the Korean conflict, or the Vietnam era."

(h) The catchline of section 542 of title 38, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"§ 542. Children of World War I, World War II, Korean conflict, or Vietnam era veterans."

(i) The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 15 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking out

"521. Veterans of World War I, World War II, or the Korean conflict,"

and substituting in lieu thereof

"521. Veterans of World War I, World War II, the Korean conflict, or the Vietnam era."

by striking out the subheading

"World War I, World War II, and the Korean conflict

and substituting in lieu thereof

"World War I, World War II, the Korean conflict, and the Vietnam era";

by striking out

"541. Widows of World War I, World War II, or Korean conflict veterans,"

and substituting in lieu thereof

"541. Widows of World War I, World War II, Korean conflict, or Vietnam era veterans."

and by striking out

"542. Children of World War I, World War II, or Korean conflict veterans."

and substituting in lieu thereof

"542. Children of World War I, World War II, Korean conflict, or Vietnam era veterans."

(j) Chapter 15 of title 38, United States Code, is amended by striking out the subheading "WORLD WAR I, WORLD WAR II, AND THE KOREAN CONFLICT" immediately preced-